

October 7, 1999

TO: ALL PROSPECTIVE APPLICANTS:

SUBJECT: AMENDMENT 001 TO SOLICITATION NO. DE-PS36-00GO10480, AGENDA  
2020 - FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES OF THE FUTURE

This Amendment 001 incorporates three revised pages to the solicitation, as follows:

- (1) The cover sheet attached replaces the cover sheet included in the original solicitation.
- (2) Page 9 of the original solicitation is replaced with the Page 9 attached. This revision changes the evaluation criteria for the Step 1 - First Technical Review, of the 2-page proposals due on November 15, 1999. It provides for four rather than five evaluation criteria, and the weights of the criteria have changed.
- (3) Page 10 of the original solicitation is replaced with the Page 10 attached. This revision changes the evaluation criteria for the Step 2 - Second Technical Review, of the 5-page proposals. It provides for four rather than five evaluation criteria, and the weights of the criteria have changed.

All other terms and conditions of this solicitation remain unchanged. The closing date is NOT extended beyond November 15, 1999.

Sincerely,

/signed by/

Beth H. Peterman  
Contracting Officer

# **SOLICITATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS**

**SOLICITATION NUMBER DE-PS36-00GO10480**



**A F & P A<sup>®</sup>**



## **AGENDA 2020 - FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES OF THE FUTURE**

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| Issuing Office:          | U.S. Department of Energy<br>Golden Field Office<br>1617 Cole Boulevard<br>Golden, CO 80401-3393     |
| Coordinating Office:     | The American Forest and Paper Association<br>1111 19th Street, NW, Suite 800<br>Washington, DC 20036 |
| Date Issued:             | October 4, 1999  |
| <b>Applications Due:</b> | <b>November 15, 1999</b>   |
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## IV EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

Proposals will be reviewed using a three-step technical evaluation process, followed by a two step programmatic evaluation/selection process. The appropriate Agenda 2020 Task Groups will perform the first two technical merit reviews of the 2-page and 5-page proposals, the CTO Committee will perform the third technical review, and DOE will perform the final two-step programmatic review/evaluation and selection process.

### A. Step 1 - First Technical Review

In the first technical review, the 2-page proposals requested by this Solicitation will be evaluated by the appropriate Agenda 2020 Task Groups in accordance with the following evaluation criteria (the requirements for preparation of the 2-page proposals are included in Section III of this Solicitation):

Feasibility (25 points) - The technical potential will be evaluated considering the responsiveness of the proposal to the priorities identified in Section V, "Research Areas for This Solicitation," and the feasibility of the proposal, i.e., whether it is based on sound scientific and engineering principles and on an understanding of the current state-of-the-art in the forest products industry.

Innovation (25 points) - The innovation will be evaluated either in terms of providing improved fundamental understanding that could lead to solving an important problem or suggesting a new approach to solving an important problem.

Shared Industry/National Goals (25 points) - The potential for enhancing the economic competitiveness of the North American forest products industry, the opportunity to impact energy use efficiency and the opportunity to increase utilization of indigenous renewable energy with increased environmental benefits are all areas of importance to both the forest products industry and the national agenda. The extent to which proposers define how the project will impact these shared objectives will be evaluated.

Appropriate Degree of Collaboration (25 points) - Collaboration capabilities, especially with forest and paper products companies, will be evaluated considering the ability to assemble a multi-disciplined team with research experience and industrial industry and industrial supplier participation.

The reviewers will score each proposal on each of the above criteria for a maximum of 100 points. The evaluation criteria are weighted as indicated above.

## B. Step 2 - Second Technical Review

The second step of the merit review process is an evaluation of the requested 5-page proposals by the appropriate Agenda 2020 Task Groups, using the following evaluation criteria (instructions for preparation of the 5-page proposals are found in Section III):

Quality of the Proposal (Scientific, Technical and Overall) (25 points) – The technical potential of the proposal will be evaluated considering the clarity, completeness, and adequacy of the statement of objectives. The technical merit and feasibility of the proposed work will also be evaluated. (Is it based on sound scientific/engineering principles and on an understanding of the current state of the art in the forest products industry?)

Probability of Meeting Objectives (25 points) - The adequacy and appropriateness of the schedule (sequence of project tasks, planned levels of data acquisition, sampling and analysis, principal milestones, decision points, and time for each task) and the planned assignment of responsibilities and level of manpower to complete each task will be evaluated.

Quantification of Shared Industry/National Goals (25 points) - Energy, environmental and global competitiveness opportunities identified in the two-page proposals should be further addressed here. To the extent possible, indicate expectations with respect to energy and environmental impacts. These will be evaluated based on the data provided in the OIT Performance Metrics, Attachment 4. **Note that those proposals selected by DOE for funding are required to have significant energy benefits.**

Appropriate Degree of Collaboration (25 points) – Capabilities will be evaluated considering the ability to assemble a multi-disciplined team with research experience, qualifications in the proposal subject area, and knowledge of past advanced developments in the proposed work area. Participant(s) facilities will be evaluated on the availability of equipment, laboratory and demonstration facilities, analytic support and other necessary resources for performing the work proposed. Project management methods will also be evaluated. In addition, industry and industrial supplier participation are encouraged.

The reviewers will score each proposal on each of the above criteria for a maximum of 100 points. The evaluation criteria are weighted as indicated.